

The DX Bulletin

• America's Oldest Weekly Amateur Radio Publication •

ISSUE 295 JULY 19, 1985

PROPAGATION: Jul 18, 19, High Normal; Jul 20, High/Low Normal; Jul 21, High Normal; Jul 22, Low Normal; Jul 23, below Normal; Jul 24, Low Normal; Jul 25, Below Normal; Jul 26, Low Normal; Jul 27, High Normal; Jul 28, Low Normal; Jul 29, High Normal. TNX N4XX.

Flux (80)	Flux (81)	Flux (82)	Flux (83)	Flux (84)	Date	Flux -----1985-----	A	K
154	148	110	133	102	7/5	81	16	3
145	144	117	128	104	7/6	85	17	4
148	145	128	128	97	7/7	95	21	3
148	147	140	128	97	7/8	95	13	2
150	148	165	124	98	7/9	101	13	2
159	149	208	119	101	7/10	99	10	4
168	161	223	119	94	7/11	94	14	3

Solar flux was in the 80s and 90s in May, and the June peak of 89 occurred on the 10th and 11th; July seems to have peaked at 101 on the 9th. KH6BZF Reports the possibility of a 27.5-day cycle developing, and it might pay to look at the bands around Aug 8-12 or so. That coincides with the Worked All Europe Contest CW weekend.

During last weekend's Radiosport Contest, 15 Meters opened to Europe for most of the Eastern U.S., and 20 Meters had a fair opening to Japan Sunday morning.

- There are reports of a new Russian over-the-horizon radar, operating only on 14 MHz, according to the latest W5YI Report, which notes that the sound is different from the familiar Woodpecker, it covers about 30 KHz, and appears to be coming from the vicinity of Odessa, near the Black Sea. W5YI says the FCC's Treaty Division is in the process of lodging a complaint, and the case number is 85-WA295.

- Now there's hope for working the elusive VR6TC...phone for a sked, as the Wall Street Journal reports that Pitcairn is now served by AT&T. There is one telephone for the island's residents; the cost from the U.S. is \$11.83 for three minutes, and you have to make a reservation to get your call through. Competitor MCI Communications, which recently bought Satellite Business Systems, said they were surprised AT&T had staged this coup. MCI didn't think that SBS served Pitcairn.

- A nice letter from George, W1GKK, responded to our report in Issue 293 about "who's on top?" George admitted that he's "worked them all, 368 including the Cyprus changeover, plus a few oddballs." George also confesses that he had 100 countries confirmed in 1939 but never applied for DXCC, and confirms that he was one of the ones who dropped out of DXCC in 1966 (but he came back, as we said).

- One of the topics likely to be discussed at next week's ARRL board meeting is whether to publish a description of how DXCC country status is determined and granted or denied. Some have expressed concern that too much secrecy surrounds the decision-making process at headquarters. Others feel that the criteria, as spelled out on page one of every DXCC Countries List, is suitably clear and generally applied fairly. Your director would probably like to have your opinion on this matter, but time is short.

Another matter which will be discussed is the continuing volunteer examination program and the possibility of ARRL assuming issuance of callsigns.

A recent poll of ARRL members in New England asked them what topics could be cut from QST if that became necessary in the face of declining editorial page space). The two areas favored by readers for reduced coverage were DX and contests.

Another topic which will come up at the board meeting is what to do about organized activities on 24 MHz. The speculation is that for the time being there will be no contests but that contacts on the band will count for awards such as DXCC.

On a related note, another entry came in for our band-countries listings, and included 62 DXCC countries on 10 MHz. We think we will start including both 10 and 24 MHz in the listings, even though there are some countries which do not have either band.

- An European correspondent replied to someone's proposal in a recent issue about perhaps counting U.S. bases in Japan the same way that the British bases in Cyprus are now counted for DXCC. He points out that both old and new maps of Cyprus identify Akrotiri and Dhekelia as sovereign British territory, but that no maps of Japan mention anything about U.S. bases. The one other spot in the world which has the same status as the RAF bases, and which as therefore always counted for DXCC is, of course, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

- USSR Tidbits (K1KI) lists the "Best Shortwave Radio Sportsmen of 1984," as published in the April issue of the USSR's Radio magazine: UA1DZ, UL7QF, UQ2GDQ, UB5AAF, UH8EAA, UR2QD, UB5FDF, UL7CT, UA0QWB, and UA9SAX. All are individual stations. Tom also noted that the results of the 1984 "M" contest have still not arrived at ARRL headquarters, after more than a year, and that in general Box 88 seems slower in sending certificates and medals the past few years.

- LAST CALL to send back your Survey sheets...we will start processing them next week. Thus far, the response has been about the same as past years...about 30 per cent. The 100 choices we offered seems to have worked well, although a few additions have been suggested for next year...4U1UN and ZC4 are examples.

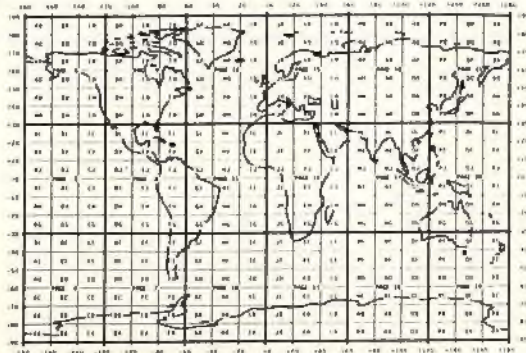
THE MAIDENHEAD LOCATOR SYSTEM

by FOLKE ROSVALL, SM5ACM

IN THE 1960s there was a need among central European amateurs for a convenient way of giving positions in contests, because the scoring was based on the distance of the contact. A system of grid locators came into use not only for contests but for general contacts, and spread to the U.S. as well (the ARRL grid squares used in VHF/UHF contests).

Because there was some lack of worldwide uniformity and some overlapping of locator naming, the author proposed in 1979 a system which would clear up these inconsistencies. By early 1985, all three IARU regions had adopted the Maidenhead Locator System.

The author has produced a world atlas showing the locators for the entire Earth. Naturally, many of the squares are over water. The Earth's surface is divided into 324 "fields," each 20 degrees longitude by 10 degrees latitude (see chart). Each field is further divided into 100 squares, each 2 degrees longitude by 1 degree latitude. Finally, each square is divided into 576 "subsquares."



This system is catching on among VHF operators, and an "honor roll" listing is published four times a year. One goal would be to work all 324 fields on the same band. The author calculates that 262 of the fields are covered by some kind of land, 8 fields are covered by permanent ice, and 54 fields are open sea.

A world atlas showing the 324 fields and also containing maps of 32,400 squares is available from Folke Rosvall, Box 8037, S-191 08 Sollentuna, Sweden, for a large SAE and 6 IRCs.

ONE DXER'S CW HONOR ROLL PROGRESSION

IN ISSUE 291 we published a DXCC progression for one operator, which showed what had been possible since early 1979 (starting at that time with 279 mixed). Here is another progression, on CW only. Contacts for CW DXCC must have been made since January 1, 1975. In this case, the operator began 1979 with 259 DXCC countries on CW.

As a point of reference, the Honor Roll published in June 1978 QST listed W9KNI at the top of the CW section, with 283 current. Since the Honor Roll consists of the top ten numbers, not necessarily the ten numbers immediately below 283, the Honor Roll that year went all the way down to 251.

A year later, the CW Honor Roll for 1979 was topped at 299, and the bottom listing was 270.

What may be most enlightening is to put this chart next to the one in Issue 291 (which illustrates a progression in mixed mode) for comparison. Now, will someone please come up with a comparable chart for SSB only?

Incidentally, the progression here reflects the inclusion of a few deleted countries; his current total is therefore 301. W9KNI led the June, 1985 CW Honor Roll, missing only VU7/A, XZ, ZA, and 70, none of which have been on the air on any mode since before 1975.

K2TQC and K6GA were both two down from W9KNI, because they had not received their CE0AA San Felix cards in time for submission. Because there ended being an "open number" (310), the bottom of the Honor Roll dropped a notch to 301, and 14 DXers must have been very surprised to find themselves on the Honor Roll!

79	80	81	82	83	84	85
A2						
A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6	A6
BY	BY	BY	BY			
D4						
CE0X	CE0X	CE0X	CE0X	CE0X		
ET						
FB8W	FB8W					
FR/G						
KH9						
S2	S2	S2	S2	S2	S2	S2
S7	S7					
S9	S9					
TJ						
TL						
TT	TT	TT	TT			
TY	TY					
TZ						
VK9N						
VK9W						
VK0H	VK0H	VK0H	VK0H			
VP8/GA	VP8/GA	VP8/GA	VP8/GA	VP8/GA	VP8/GA	VP8/GA
VU7A	VU7A	VU7A	VU7A	VU7A	VU7A	VU7A
VU7L	VU7L	VU7L	VU7L	VU7L		
XU	XU	XU	XU			
XV	XV	XV	XV	XV	XV	XV
XW	XW	XW	XW	XW	XW	XW
XZ	XZ	XZ	XZ	XZ	XZ	XZ
YA	YA	YA	YA	YA	YA	YA
YI	YI	YI	YI	YI	YI	YI
ZA	ZA	ZA	ZA	ZA	ZA	ZA
1A0						
3X						
4W	4W	4W	4W	4W	4W	4W
5A	5A	5A	5A	5A	5A	5A
5R	5R	5R				
5V	5V					
70	70	70	70	70	70	70
7Q	7Q					
9U						
281	294	300	301	305	307	307

KH6AT 1832 0530 4 MA
 T31AT 1828 0540 2 MA
 CE3DNP 3797 0307 8 MA
 PY6KK 3796 0041 8 NH
 8J3UNV 7016 1325 6 OR
 CEOZIG 7004 0530 5 OR
 CEOZIG 7005 0725 5 CO
 CE1HBI 7180 0525 6 OR
 GD4BEG 7006 0340 7 MA
 J28EI 7006 0202 8 FL
 J6LDZ 7230 1016 11 MA
 PZ2AC 7011 0346 4 AL
 T31AT 7068 0520 2 MA
 T10RC 7003 0335 7 MA
 UQ1GWE 7003 0227 9 FL
 VK7SA 7025 0945 9 MA
 YJ0ASN 7013 1101 4 AL
 ZK1BW 7004 0540 6 OR
 FM4CT 10117 0026 3 AL
 TI2LL 10103 1114 3 AL
 9Y4GR 21042 1744 6 FL
 YN1CC 21025 2152 8 FL

G5BM 24900 0004 3 AL
 (MULTI-HOP Es)

3D2ER 14194 0605 7 OR
 3D6BU 14155 0605 4 OR
 3E6 (LONG PATH)
 4S7EA 14153 0147 4 MA
 4U/VE3KFE 14205 0954 8 MA
 4U/VE3KFE 14184 0424 3 MA
 4U/VE3KFE 14184 0450 3 CA
 4X6LK 14018 1301 4 AL
 4Z4ZY 14234 0237 11 MA
 5B4CA 14021 2341 3 FL
 5B4JE 14226 2041 4 MD
 5B4MF 14192 2225 4 CT
 5B4NF 14238 2150 1 MA
 5B4OA 14159 2117 6 MA
 5T5MS 14167 2230 8 NY
 5V7RW 14268 2113 6 CT
 5W1DZ 14215 0405 2 MA
 5Z4ED 14048 2155 3 FL
 7X2FK 14026 0011 9 FL
 9H1EU 14227 2139 4 MD
 9M8EN 14227 1535 4 OR
 9M8EN 14227 1522 4 MD
 9V1TL 14227 1533 3 CA
 A35PP 14225 0410 4 MA

A35PP 14225 0415 4 CO
 A4XJW 14027 1250 2 MA
 A71AD 14199 2149 4 MD
 A92EM 14036 2105 7 FL
 AH9AC 14211 0510 4 OR
 AP2MQ 14184 0144 8 NH
 BY1QH 14227 1500 3 CA
 C31LBB 14022 2137 7 MA
 CE0FFD 14004 0009 5 FL
 CE0FFD 14011 0135 6 OR
 CN8EA 14202 0038 5 NH
 CN8EA 14240 0137 8 NH
 CO2FRC 14030 1455 5 AL
 CT2AK 14022 0102 3 FL
 CT2CB 14206 0040 3 CT
 EA6BH 14215 2050 3 CT
 EA6PE 14216 2324 6 CT
 EA6UE 14022 2256 2 FL
 EA8ABQ 14066 1044 8 GA
 EA8AGF 14043 2213 6 FL
 EA8ALX 14043 1032 8 GA
 EA8BDX 14049 1047 8 GA
 EA9PB 14034 1146 8 GA
 EL2FN 14005 1418 5 AL
 FG0/F6HQI 14045 0108 7 FL
 FK8FF 14023 0545 4 MA
 FK8FF 14205 0545 5 OR
 FK8FI 14175 0540 5 OR
 FM5DD 14021 0103 3 FL
 FM5WD 14013 2240 6 FL
 FO0ASJ 14022 0310 6 OR
 FO0FB 14185 0350 6 OR
 FO0FB 14245 0241 11 MA
 FO8NA 14267 0445 8 OR
 FR5BY 14020 1446 6 AL
 FW8AF 14228 2351 6 MA
 FY7AN 14012 2142 3 FL
 GB0SWR/MM 14173 2355 1 MA
 GD3FLH 14198 1135 6 CT
 GJ4ZFM 14061 1200 10 GA
 GU4VPM 14010 2143 3 FL
 H44MA 14175 0517 5 OR
 HI3PC 14028 0014 5 FL

HP1XKR 14006 2129 7 MA
 HP1XKR 14025 2254 2 FL
 IJ7ET 14028 2234 4 AL
 J88BL 14013 0146 5 GA
 JW5NR 14180 1300 4 CO
 KC4USV 14277 2231 6 CT
 KH0AC 14207 1243 5 MD
 KH2/KS0C 14194 0710 3 MA
 KH6BB 14217 1700 4 CT
 OD5PA 14191 0254 11 MA
 OY7ML 14036 2337 3 AL
 P29FG 14229 0520 4 OR
 P29GG 14163 0530 7 OR
 PR80ET 14204 0245 10 MA
 PZ1DT 14009 2246 3 FL
 PZ1DV 14005 0040 9 FL
 PZ1DV 14045 0135 5 GA
 SV0AH 14027 1825 4 MA
 (RHODES)
 SV0DH/5 14217 0113 12 MA
 SV1LV 14016 2045 4 MA
 T31AT 14014 0448 6 CO
 T31AT 14032 0410 8 OR
 T31AT 14080 0630 3 MA
 T31AT 14145 0550 3 MA
 T31AT 14253 0625 4 OR
 T42HQ 14193 0108 10 MA
 T44HC 14008 0141 9 MA
 T47RG 14200 0217 11 MA
 T77C 14211 0113 11 MA
 T77C 14225 2124 3 CT
 TF3IRA 14005 2302 2 FL
 TG9NX 14238 2355 1 MA
 TG9XHQ 14017 0104 3 FL
 T10RC 14026 0150 5 GA
 TI4BGA 14028 2154 8 FL
 TK/DJ6SI 14025 2038 7 FL
 TR8DR 14210 2033 4 NH
 TR8DR 14211 2114 4 MD
 TU2JD 14184 2157 7 MA
 TU2JD 14185 2219 7 NH
 TU2JD 14184 2000 6 NE
 TU4BR 14177 2111 7 MA

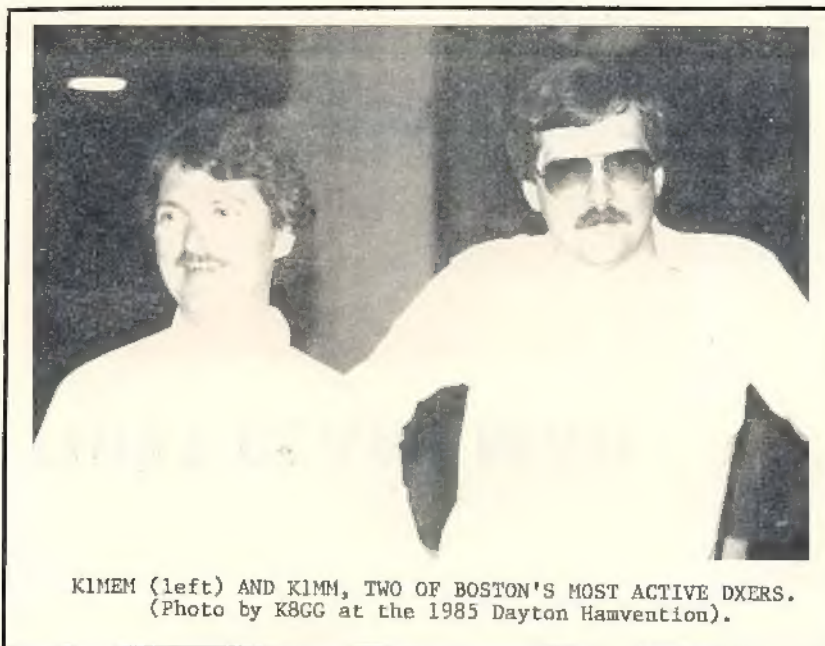
TU4BR 14178 2235 7 NH
 TU4BR 14178 1930 6 NE
 UA0ZWB/U0X 14042 0130 4 OR
 UA9FM 14191 0245 8 NH
 UH8EWW 14019 1515 8 OR
 UI8BX 14029 0139 7 MI
 UI8OAE 14038 0128 7 MI
 UJ8BQ 14030 0146 4 MA
 UJ9JWA 14046 0255 4 AL
 UL7CW 14033 0130 11 MA
 UL7QF 14192 0134 4 MA
 UM9QWC 14181 0213 8 NH
 V2ACW 14025 1442 6 AL
 V85GA 14202 1550 3 CA
 VE8GD 14013 0200 4 MA
 VK7SA 14028 0412 8 OR
 VK9ZB 14220 0400 12 IL
 VR6JR 14145 0455 3 MA
 VR6JR 14178 0237 8 NH
 VR6JR 14217 0211 5 MD
 VR6TC 14155 0230 3 MA
 VU2ISV 14176 1521 6 CT
 VU2JDQ 14024 0133 4 FL
 VU2MAC 14189 0146 8 NH
 VU2UGI 14187 0140 8 NH
 Y11BGD 14260 2011 4 NH
 Y11BGD 14261 2112 4 MD
 YJ0ASN 14008 0315 6 OR
 YJ0ASN 14015 0450 4 MA
 YJ0ASN 14009 0050 5 CO
 YJ8FB 14166 0555 7 OR
 YN1CC 14020 0008 5 FL
 YN1CC 14026 1835 4 MA
 ZC4AB 14226 2048 4 MD
 ZC4CZ 14014 1729 6 FL
 ZC4MR 14227 2029 4 MD
 ZP5JCY 14225 2315 1 MA
 ZV2ACZ 14010 0105 3 FL

KEY TO BANDPASS:
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 Frequency;
 UTC;
 day of month;
 state.

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KIMEM (left) AND KIMM, TWO OF BOSTON'S MOST ACTIVE DXERS.
 (Photo by K8GG at the 1985 Dayton Hamvention).

CALENDAR

ISSUE 295

TDXB SURVEY LAST CALL; PLEASE RETURN NOW
 SHUTTLE WODRE/Space delayed to end of July
 NEW HEBRIDES YJOASN by ZL2BOF now
 JOHNSTON By W6DMJ and K8CRM starts Jul 22
 CONTEST SEANET CW Jul 20/21
 MONTERRAT VP2MR By W6-types Jul 29-Aug 5
 SAO TOME S92LB on 20 SSB only; I293, 294

 CHINA Active stations run-down I294
 WILLIS VK9ZB on P29JS 14.220 net at 0400Z
 MIDWAY By WH60 now; also Kure occasionally
 CHAD KA4JRY/TT returns end of July; I291
 WALLIS FW8AF LEAVES SOON; I291

 W CAROLINES By KC6JC starts Jul 30; I293
 PITCAIRN VR6JR on through Sept, mostly 20
 CENT KIRIBATI T31AT could run to end of July
 BURMA Rumors only; I292, 294
 WAKE AH9AC on now

 COOKS ZK1XK by WB2CVL Jul 21-27
 ST BRANDON Rumors of an operation by 3B8CD
 TAHITI FOORWP Jul 28-AUG 2;
 ANNOBON Slim rumors of a Jul operation; I292
 CONVENTION NW DX, Vancouver, Jul 26-29; I291

 TRINIDADE By PY1SL rumored soon
 CONTEST WAE CW Aug 10/11
 CONTEST All Asia CW Aug 24/25

CONTRIBUTORS

KA1BU, K1KTB, KB1BE, W1AX, KZ1Z, WO1JR,
 WOMCP, W8CT, W6BJI, K6IR, N4NO, K1MEM,
 W1CYB, KD7SO, K4BAI, W4VQ, KB2XR, KA1XN,
 K9RHY, SM5DQC, KM9J, KA3KZF, KA1SR, W1JR,
 W1GKK, WOJRN, WOVX.

Five years ago in The DX Bulletin

(JULY 28, 1980): ARRL announced that Okino
 Torishima would be deleted from the DXCC
 Countries List, effective December 1,
 1980. It had been put on the list on May
 30, 1976, as a means of cementing
 relations with the Japan Amateur Radio
 League, whose help ARRL needed in the
 upcoming (1979) WARC. In June, 1976, the
 JARL mounted a \$50,000 expedition, 7J1RL,
 to the reef, which, it turned out, was
 submerged. Scaffolding had to be erected
 to hold the operators and radios.

600DX was active from Somalia, the
 Radio Club of Conception announced an
 expedition to Juan Fernandez, and HKOBKX
 was working on an operation from Serrana
 Bank (since deleted).

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